

Evening Telegraph

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 4, 1871.

THE GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE.

On our first page we publish the annual message of Governor Geary as transmitted to the Legislature to-day. The Governor gives a general review of the affairs of the State, and touches upon a number of important topics connected with the public welfare, and we commend the message to the thoughtful attention of our readers. In regard to the finances of the State the Governor makes a satisfactory report. He says that every demand upon the Treasury for ordinary and other expenses has been promptly paid, and the public debt materially reduced, so that a public confidence in the securities of the Commonwealth has been inspired which enables them to command the highest premium in the market. On the 15th of January, 1867, the total indebtedness of the State was \$37,704,409.77. Since then and up to November 30, 1870, the sum of \$6,592,747.87 has been paid. The reduction during the year ending November 30, 1870, is \$1,702,879.05. The general desire for a Constitutional Convention is strongly endorsed by the Governor, who sets forth the inconvenience of the present patchwork condition of the Constitution, caused by the numerous important amendments that have been made since the last Constitutional Convention in 1828. The labors of the commissioners appointed to revise the statutes of the Commonwealth are referred to with satisfaction, and, in the opinion of the Governor, the work has been well performed. The entire laws of the Commonwealth, including those of British origin, except such as relate to crime, have been revised, collated, and arranged in a volume of less than three hundred pages. The prosperous condition of our common school system is alluded to in the message, and a number of suggestions for its improvement are offered. A satisfactory exhibit of the affairs of the schools for soldiers' orphans is also made. The Governor makes a brief statement in regard to our militia system, but offers no suggestions for placing it upon a better footing than it is at present. There is no doubt whatever that our militia force is not what it ought to be, and some measures for increasing its efficiency should engage the attention of the Governor and the Legislature. The importance of a geological survey of the State is urged with great force by the Governor, and no portion of the message is better worthy of the careful consideration of the Legislature than this. Until such a survey is made we cannot even approximate to a knowledge of our vast mineral wealth, and we sincerely hope that the matter will receive the attention it deserves. In regard to the question of protection for home industry the views of the Governor are sound, and he advances some unanswerable arguments against the free-trade heresy that we commend to the notice of the so-called reformers. The "heathen Chinese" does not meet with the approval of the Governor, especially when he comes in the shape of a coolie under contract for a term of years, and restrictive laws that will stay the further importation of this kind of labor are recommended. The presence of United States troops at elections without the consent of the local and State Governments is regarded by Governor Geary as an interference with the sovereign rights of States, and he consequently condemns in strong terms the action of Marshal Gregory in summoning a squad of marines to preserve order in the Fifth ward of this city at the last October election. We commend this portion of the Governor's message to the thoughtful consideration of President Grant and Congress, as we do also the Governor's views in regard to the propriety of holding the centennial anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence in Philadelphia.

THE PARDON REPORT.

The pardon report, accompanying the Governor's message, will be found in to-day's TELEGRAPH. It gives the names of the criminals pardoned, during the last year, in Pennsylvania, together with the alleged reasons for the exercise of Executive clemency. The general effect of such a publication is no doubt beneficial, as it inevitably imposes a check of some kind upon a power which, in its nature, is absolute. Geary is entitled to credit for reducing the average number of pardons, and for resisting the pressure which has no doubt been applied in many undeserving cases embraced in the 1240 applications which were made during the year. The list of sixty-two pardons granted also embraces a fair proportion of deserving cases, in which the Governor very properly and justly opened the prison doors. The machinery of justice, like all other machinery, sometimes gets out of order and works badly. An irate and prejudiced judge may impose too heavy a sentence, a stupid jury may render a false verdict, a vindictive prosecuting attorney may successfully institute frivolous prosecutions, and terrible mistakes may be made or stupendous wrongs be inflicted by courts and juries armed with the authority of the Commonwealth. The pardoning power erects a necessary barrier against the worst consequences of such errors, and when it is applied to their correction, either by a Governor or a court of pardons, it performs a legitimate and essential office. When pardons are granted, however, from mere caprice, or because one or more influential persons sign petitions asking for them, or because it is alleged that the health of the criminal suffers from confinement, or because one or more persons are dependent upon the criminal for support, or because the imputed offense was committed when the prisoner was intoxicated, there is constant danger that the chief aim and object of our whole system of criminal jurisprudence will be in part defeated by imprudent

executive action, and we regret to notice that a considerable percentage of the pardons granted by Geary during the last year belong to this dangerous category. We doubt whether there could not have been, in any one of the 1178 applications rejected, as good reasons for a pardon advanced as those which, in a few of the sixty applications granted, were deemed sufficient. If the soundness of the Governor's reasoning and the correctness of his statements is to be tested by the Philadelphia case which has attracted more attention in this community during the last year than any other, he has failed utterly to reform the principles of administering pardons, in spite of his reduction of their number.

THE HOUSE OF CORRECTION.

The House of Correction Commissioners organized promptly yesterday, by selecting Mr. A. H. Francis, the well-known ex-member of Select Council, as President. The work on this much-needed institution is already well under way, and within a year we may expect to see it in partial operation. Then the question of its support will naturally and necessarily arise. Such an institution should, theoretically at least, be self-supporting, but it is scarcely to be expected that such will prove to be the case at the outset, even if wise management is able to secure it in the end. Mr. Francis yesterday, in the course of his remarks to the commission, branched the subject which will soon engage the attention of himself and his colleagues. He stated that the House of Correction at Pittsburg is supported by a tax levied upon tavern-keepers, and declared himself in favor of a similar disposition of the money received from tavern-keepers in this city. As we have repeatedly insisted, the tavern-keepers' tax belongs properly to the City Treasury, and not to that of the State, into which it now finds its way. In 1869 it amounted, under an exceedingly loose system of collection, to \$179,339.21, and in 1868 to \$162,476.06. If the law relating to the selling of liquor were strictly enforced, the proceeds would be largely in excess of these amounts, and would certainly rise above two hundred thousand dollars per annum. This money should be paid into the City Treasury, upon which falls the burden of supporting criminals and paupers, to whose ranks such large accessions are made by the liquor traffic. As much of it as may be needed should go towards the support of the House of Correction, and the surplus, if any existed, should be devoted to similar uses. It is to be hoped that the House of Correction Commission will give this subject their earnest attention, and use all legitimate means to secure such legislation as may be needed to direct the proceeds of the tavern taxes into their proper channel.

REPUBLICANISM IN GERMANY.

REMOVALS come over the sea that the Fatherland is feeling the pressure of the war only one degree less sensibly than France. While her soil is not devastated, her towns and villages are nearly depopulated of able-bodied men; her Christmas was a sad and solemn one; and the record of German mortality, arising not merely from wounds in battle but from exposure and disease, has been fearfully lengthened. The glitter of victory is fading, and men anxiously inquire not only how much has already been paid for it, but how much more blood and treasure are requisite to subdue the stubborn Frenchman. The practical effect of these reprimands is to strengthen the Republican sentiment. Germany roused herself as one man to resist French aggression. She is ready and determined to make a bold strike for future safety and for unity. She even consents to confer imperial dignities and imperial power upon King William, but let him see to it that the war ends speedily and successfully if he wishes to prolong his dynasty. At the best, we do not believe he can perpetuate it; and if Germany once fairly realizes that she can be united without an emperor, and that her emperor is making national interests subordinate to dynastic ambition, there may be a downfall of the house of Hohenzollern as well as of the house of Napoleon. The Republican spirit is gaining strength every hour in Spain, Italy, and Germany, and if a moderate degree of success attends the French experiment the foundations of every European throne will tremble. Can it be that the courtesies and mutual good feeling displayed between the German monarch and his prisoner at Wilhelmshöhe are based on a belief that underlying everything else in the present war they have a common interest in keeping the millions in subjection and in maintaining imperial rule? If this suspicion permeates the German mind, the royal family of Berlin may read their fate in the history of the Bourbons and the Orleans.

We continually receive communications asking why no legal steps are taken to punish the leaders of the riot instituted at the meeting of the return judges of the October election. If the alderman has not returned the case to court, why has he failed to make such a return? Is there no process by which Alern can be brought before a judge and jury? Has a bill of indictment been framed and sent to the Grand Jury? If not, why not? These and similar questions are asked more frequently now than ever, in consequence of the threatened danger that the Democratic Senators at Harrisburg will reward the leader of the riot at a time when our courts should be making judicial inquiry into his imputed guilt.

Here some influential politicians could steal with impunity the moneys appropriated for the nominal benefit of the Indians, and not merely steal such money, but with it buy high positions, and cut a figure before the country as aspirants for its highest honors. But checks on operations of this description are at last being established, and there is a good prospect that the day is near at hand when the political thieves can steal only from white men.

The District Attorney has issued a circular to aldermen and committing magistrates which is the initial step of a general movement to sue out the amount due in every case of forfeited recognizance, and lively times among straw ball-goers may be anticipated. By the way, since Justice is growing vigilant in these matters, it is time to inquire when the Alern case is coming up for trial. It is surely not possible that the meeting-room of the Board of Return Judges can be invaded with impunity, and a dangerous riot kindled in sight of the Court of Quarter Sessions, without some legal cognizance of such an event being taken.

The true end of government is to promote the greatest good of the greatest number. Our own republic, in all its ramifications, was started, and for some years was administered, in accordance with this beneficent principle. But fools and rascals have thrown it off the right track, and now-a-days it is the absorbing idea of the controlling politicians to devise schemes and pretexts for plundering the public.

EXPERTS of other cities consider the Gas Ring of Philadelphia the biggest thing ever set up in their line, and they burst with envy when they consider the magnificent opportunities afforded here for charging a high price for gas that is manufactured cheaply, and for the enrichment of the favored hangers-on, confidants, and wire-pullers connected with the Gas Works.

THERE is a great deal of talk about economy in national, State, and city affairs, but there has scarcely been a vigorous, determined, wise, and thoroughly honest effort yet made in any one department. Everywhere the same fearful story is repeated—office-holders and contractors grow rich, while the burdens of tax-payers become insupportable.

The worthlessness of office-holders, legislators, Congressmen, etc., through a series of years has borne an inverse ratio to their salaries and stealings. Ever since they have set their wits to work to make money out of politics, statesmanship has faded out of sight until it has nearly become a lost art.

If you want to control the delegate elections of the Republican party, and to insure a profitable nomination for yourself or your particular friends, you must become one of the wire-pullers of the Gas Ring.

If you want to get a good, fat office—one of the real, profitable, big-salaried Row offices—work your way into the Gas Ring.

THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE NORTHERN PACIFIC RAILROAD.—The charter of the Northern Pacific Railroad contains the following important sections:—And be it further enacted, That said Northern Pacific Railroad shall be constructed in a substantial and workmanlike manner, with all the necessary draws, culverts, bridges, viaducts, crossings, turnouts, stations, and watering places, and all other appurtenances, including furniture and rolling stock, equal in all respects to railroads of the first class when prepared for business, with rails of the best quality, manufactured from American iron. And a uniform gauge shall be established throughout the entire length of the road. And there shall be constructed a telegraph line of the most substantial and approved description, to be operated along the entire line: Provided, That the said company shall not charge the Government higher rates than they do individuals for like transportation and telegraphic service. And it shall be the duty of the "Northern Pacific Railroad Company" to permit any other railroad, which shall be authorized to be built by the United States or by the Legislature of any Territory or State in which the same may be situated, to form running connections with it on fair and equitable terms.

NOTICES.

SKATING JACKETS, SKATING JACKETS. BENNETT & CO., TOWER HALL, NO. 51 N. SECOND STREET, HALF-WAY BETWEEN FIFTH AND SIXTH STREETS, HAVE A fine assortment of these seasonable and comfortable Coats, selling at half-price. THEY ARE HEAVY AND WARM. As an accident, shorter, and new, with many of the only one-of-a-kind, and being made of the best material, and much more convenient than the ordinary for business, and MUCH CHEAPER. WHITMAN'S JUBILEE.—For singers and public speakers, to keep the throat moist and voice clear, it is excellent. 25 cents per box. Druggists sell it. STEPHEN F. WHITMAN & SON, Sole Manufacturers, S. W. corner of Twelfth and Market streets.

DIED.

DEVIALL.—On the evening of the 24 instant, MARY JACOBS DEVIALL, in the 57th year of her age. The friends of Mrs. Mary H. Bell are invited to attend her funeral, which will be held at 3 o'clock, on Thursday afternoon, at 3 o'clock, interment at Trinity Church.

SPECIAL NOTICES.

REPORT OF THE CONDITION OF THE GIRARD NATIONAL BANK, DECEMBER 25, 1870. RESOURCES. Loans and discounts, \$3,459,995.97. Due by banks, \$1,000,000.00. Notes and checks of other banks, \$80,219.07. specie, 100,270.98. Legal-tender notes, 894,154.00. \$5,534,670.01. LIABILITIES. Capital Stock, \$1,000,000.00. Surplus Fund, 500,000.00. Discount and interest, and profit and loss, less expenses, 86,250.81. Circulation outstanding, 572,200.00. Unpaid Dividends, 58,887.76. Individual Depositors, 2,913,382.44. Due to banks, 495,979.22. \$5,534,670.01. Approved: W. L. SMITH, Cashier.

OFFICE OF THE FIRE COMMISSIONERS OF THE FIRE DEPARTMENT OF THE CITY OF PHILADELPHIA.

PHILADELPHIA, JANUARY 3, 1871. NOTICE.—Applications will be received by the undersigned for the lease or purchase of such apparatus for the extinguishment of fires as in the judgment of the Commissioners may be deemed necessary for the same. All companies or individuals in applying to said application are requested to state the kind of apparatus they offer, and in what condition they may be, and the lowest price for the same, either for lease or purchase. Applications will also be received for membership of the Department. All applications to be directed to the Board of Fire Commissioners of the City of Philadelphia, care of the Chief Engineer of the Fire Department, S. W. corner of Fifth and Chestnut. JACOB LUDWIG, Chief Engineer, President. JOHN G. BUTLER, Secretary pro tem.

FOURTH EDITION.

TO-DAY'S WASHINGTON NEWS.

President's Veto Message.

Army Examining Board Dissolved.

DOMESTIC NEWS.

Important Railway Injunction.

Pacific Railroad Bonds.

FROM WASHINGTON.

Veto of the President. Dispatch to the Associated Press. WASHINGTON, Jan. 4.—The following is the veto sent by the President to the House to-day:—To the House of Representatives:—I herewith return without my approval the House bill No. 1395, entitled "An Act for the relief of the Charles C. Taylor, John A. Jones, Jerome Rowley, William Hanegan, and John Hanegan," for the following reasons:—The act directs the Commissioner of the Land Office to law suit to be now pending in the United States District Court for the Northern District of Ohio for the enforcement of the bond executed by said parties to the United States, whereas, in fact, no such suit is pending in the District Court, but such a suit is now pending in the Court of the State of Ohio for the Sixth Circuit and Northern District of Ohio. Neither the body of said act, nor the proviso, refers to the obligors in said bond, nor are released from all liability to the United States on a count thereof, to abandon or release their pretended claim against the Government. Since these parties have gone to Congress to ask relief from liability for a large sum of money on account of the failure of the principals in the bonds to execute their contract, it is not just and proper that they, at the same time, should abandon the claim heretofore asserted by them against the Government, growing out of the same transaction. Approved: J. B. GRANT.

Executive Mansion, January 4, 1871.

The House Unable to Procure a Quorum.

Special Dispatch to the Evening Telegraph. WASHINGTON, Jan. 4.—The House, after vainly endeavoring to procure a quorum for an hour and a half, were compelled to adjourn. Mr. Banks gave notice that he would report the San Domingo resolution from his committee on Monday next.

The New Five Per Cent.

The Senate passed without opposition Bowtell's recommendation for three hundred millions additional five per cent. bonds. The Ways and Means Committee have virtually agreed to report it.

Mr. Trumbull's Bill.

Reading of a misdeemeanor for Senators or members of Congress for the purpose of obtaining money with considerable opposition in the Senate to-day.

Democratic Caucus.

After the House adjourned the Democratic members held a caucus to determine what course to pursue relative to San Domingo.

Dispatch to the Associated Press.

WASHINGTON, JAN. 4.

The Army Examining Board.

convened under the act of July 15, 1850, section 11, of which General Hancock was President, was dissolved to-day by special order No. 1 from the War Department, and the generals composing it ordered to their respective commands. The board has reported favorably upon 25 cases and unfavorably upon 21. Four cases were returned to the Adjutant-General's office as not being acted upon. Thirty cases were withdrawn from the board by the War Department, and seven officers failed to answer the report.

Pacific Railroad Bonds.

The Committee on Appropriations to-day made a report in favor of the bill providing as to the Pacific Railroad bonds, that all sums due to or because due for interest may be paid, and shall constitute a lien on all the lands which have been or may be granted, and which remain undisposed of by the company. This, the committee say, simply gives the United States a mortgage for the debt due from their debtors.

FROM THE WEST.

Extensive Fire in Missouri.

St. Louis, Jan. 4.—Seven houses were burned at Sedalia, Missouri, on Monday morning. The principal losers are Kruekhouse & Co., dry goods, \$25,000; H. C. & Co., St. Louis, \$10,000; and J. H. & Co., Sedalia, \$10,000. The fire was caused by a gas stove in the kitchen of one of the houses, and the fire spread to the other houses.

Cincinnati and Southern Railroad.

CINCINNATI, Jan. 4.—Judge Taft, of the Superior Court, delivered an opinion, on the opening of the Cincinnati and Southern Railroad, on the constitutionality of the act authorizing the city of Cincinnati to issue bonds amounting to \$10,000,000 for building the Cincinnati and Southern Railroad, sustaining its constitutionality. The case has been under advisement since last summer, having been submitted by agreement to the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, who has now fully prepared the way for the issue of bonds.

Fire in Cincinnati.

A frame building belonging to E. A. Ferguson, occupied by Frank Kier, cigars, and P. L. Billigamer, meat, was burned early this morning. Loss about \$600.

Obituary.

C. W. DeLand, for many years a prominent dry goods merchant, died last night.

Nicholson's Legislature.

LANSING, Mich., Jan. 4.—The House met at 11 o'clock and was opened with prayer by Rev. J. H. McCarthy. The roll was called and members presented their credentials and were sworn in. The Senate organized by the election of the officers, and the House elected Harvey Sewell Speaker, with James Pike of South New Market, was nominated for Governor by proclamation.

FROM NEW ENGLAND.

Massachusetts Legislature.

BOSTON, Jan. 4.—The Massachusetts Legislature met to-day and promptly organized by re-electing the officers of last year. H. H. Gooding received the unanimous vote of the Senate for President, and the House elected Harvey Sewell Speaker, with James Pike of South New Market, was nominated for Governor by proclamation.

New Hampshire Republican State Convention.

CONCORD, N. H., Jan. 4.—The Republican State Convention for the nomination of Governor and Railroad Commissioner met to-day. The decision of Governor Stearns to retire brings forward a score of aspirants, with active lobbying. The surrounding branches elected to Old South Church to hear the annual sermon.

FROM NEW YORK.

NEW YORK, Jan. 4.—There were fourteen proposals for bonds to-day, amounting to \$2,275,000, from 107-99 to 107-94. The awards will be \$1,275,000 at 107-99 and \$1,000,000 at 107-94.

LEGAL INTELLIGENCE.

The Public Buildings—The Contest in the Supreme Court in Repeal of the Act of 1850.

Supreme Court in Repeal of the Act of 1850.—Chief Justice Thompson and Judges Root, Agnew, Sharpsword, and Williams. To-day at noon the court sat to hear the arguments of counsel in the matter of the public buildings to be erected in Broad street. The case is in the National Union petitions for injunctions, and the full court heard the request of the Chief Justice, so that the decision upon this hearing will most probably be final. There are two bills in equity filed by the complainants, residents upon Broad street, and tax payers, one praying an injunction against the Commissioners of Public Buildings, to restrain them from erecting the new building on Broad street, and the other praying an injunction against the Commissioners of Public Buildings, to restrain them from erecting the new building on Broad street, and the other praying an injunction against the Commissioners of Public Buildings, to restrain them from erecting the new building on Broad street.

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SEWING MACHINES. THE WHEELER & WILSON SEWING MACHINE. For Sale on Easy Terms. NO. 914 CHESTNUT STREET. PHILADELPHIA.

A GRAND, GOOD GIFT!

Go, get it! Great Brown Hall, 603 and 605 CHESTNUT ST. R. & W.

Now Offer New Year's Presents

The most appropriate in design. The most faultless in workmanship. The most serviceable in construction. The most gratifying in appearance. The most latest in execution. The most economical in price. For Men and for Boys. Our Fine Stock of Winter Clothes is unapproachable in Quality, in Variety, in Cheapness. Therefore we invite you to come and take it away for New Year's presents to your friends. As well as for your own use.

ROCKING CHAIRS. GREAT BROWN HALL, 603 and 605 CHESTNUT STREET.

HABILLEMEENTS. No. 221 CHESTNUT ST. CHARLES STOKES & CO. UNDER THE HOTEL PHILADELPHIA, PA.

Handsome Goods. Elegantly Trimmed, Artistically Cut, and Made in the best STYLE. Tailors. Tailors.

HOLIDAY GOODS.

Spring Horses, Rocking Horses, Children's Carriages, BOYS' SLEDS, WAGONS, VELOCIPEDS, Etc. Etc. H. J. SHILL, Factory, No. 226 DOCK Street, 129 1/2 BELOW EXCHANGE.

DREXEL & CO.,

No. 34 SOUTH THIRD STREET, American and Foreign Bankers, DRAWS EXCHANGE ON LONDON AND PRINCIPAL CITIES OF EUROPE. DEALERS IN Government and Railroad Securities, Drexel, Winthrop & Co., Drexel, Harjes & Co., No. 15 Wall Street, New York. No. 2 Rue de la Paix, Paris. \$50,000 TO INVEST IN THE PURCHASE of Mortgages, ranging from \$5000 to \$10,000. Apply to A. FITLER, No. 51 N. SIXTH STREET.